

Message Text

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15
ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CPR-01 SCA-01 SCS-03 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2286

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, FM
SUBJ: POSSIBLE CONSULAR CONVENTION

REF: RANGOON 488

1. ON SEPTEMBER 9, COUNSELOR CALLED ON U TIN TUN, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL LAW AND TREATIES DIVISION, TO FOLLOW UP CONSOFF'S LETTER OF FEBRUARY 18 AND EMBASSY NOTE OF JUNE 21 ON SUBJECT. TIN TUN SAID THAT GUB HAD PARTICIPATED IN NEGOTIATING VIENNA CONSULAR CONVENTION AND INTENDED TO RATIFY IT. ITS FAILURE TO DO SO AS YET REFLECTED INADVERTENCE. HE ASKED IF, UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE USG WISHED TO PRESS FOR A BILATERAL TREATY. COUNSELOR OFFERED AS HIS OWN OPINION AND NOT UNDER INSTRUCTIONS THAT RATIFICATION OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION SHOULD SATISFY ANY PAPER OBJECTIVES OF THE USG.

2. COMMENT: CONSIDERING THE CUMBERSOME NATURE OF GUB RATIFICATION PROCEDURES (THREE EUROPEAN EMBASSIES WHICH NEGOTIATED REVISED CIVIL AIR AGREEMENTS LAST SUMMER ON A CRASH BASIS AT GUB REQUEST ARE STILL WAITING FOR RATIFICATION), GUB RATIFICATION OF THE VIENNA CONVENTION REPRESENTS A RELATIVELY SPEEDIER ALTERNATIVE. TIN TUN SAID THE MFA IS "NOW WORKING ON IT" WHICH PRESUMABLY IT HAS NOT BEEN DOING UP TIL NOW. WE WILL POLITELY ENQUIRE ABOUT THIS FROM TIME TO TIME.

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3. ON ANOTHER GLOOMIER NOTE, TIN TUN ASSURED THE COUNSELOR THAT DESPITE ITS FAILURE TO RATIFY, THE GUB HAS BEEN FOLLOWING VIENNA PROCEDURES. THIS REMARK FOLLOWED THE COUNSELOR'S DESCRIPTION OF THE FAILURE OF GUB AUTHORITIES TO NOTIFY THE EMBASSY IN THE ARREST CASES OF THE MORESE FAMILY AND MR. POUDRIER. OSBORN

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